

TAXONOMIC STATUS OF *BRICKELIASTRUM VILLARREALII* R.M.  
KING & H. ROBINS. (ASTERACEAE, EUPATORIEAE)

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ABSTRACT

The recently described *Brickelliastrum villarrealii* R.M. King & H. Robins. is a synonym of *Steviopsis nesomii* B.L. Turner. *Brickelliastrum fendleri* (A. Gray) R.M. King & H. Robins. (= *Eupatorium fendleri*: [A. Gray] A. Gray) is transferred to *Steviopsis* as *S. fendleri* (A. Gray) B.L. Turner, *comb. nov.*

KEY WORDS: Asteraceae, Eupatorieae, *Eupatorium*, *Brickelliastrum*, *Steviopsis*, México

King & Robinson (1987) recognized *Brickelliastrum* as having but a single species, *B. fendleri* (A. Gray) King & Robinson. King & Robinson (1994) added a second species, *B. villarrealii* R.M. King & H. Robins., to the genus.

Examination of type material of the latter shows this to be the same as *Steviopsis nesomii* B.L. Turner, a localized endemic of southern Nuevo León (Turner 1990). The description of *Brickelliastrum villarrealii* led me to re-examine *B. fendleri* and as a consequence I conclude that it fits comfortably into an expanded concept of *Steviopsis*, sensu Turner 1988 (including *Asanthus* R.M. King & H. Robins., and *Dyscritogyne* R.M. King & H. Robins.).

*Steviopsis nesomii* B.L. Turner, Phytologia 68:410. 1990. TYPE: MEXICO. Nuevo León: Mpio. Doctor Arroyo, ca. 35 km NE of Doctor Arroyo, 15 Oct 1988, *Nesom 6782* (HOLOTYPE: TEX).

*Brickelliastrum villarrealii* R.M. King & H. Rob., Phytologia 76:17. 1994. TYPE: MEXICO. Nuevo León: 9 km S of Zaragoza, 15 Nov 1991, *Estrada 2223A* (HOLOTYPE: US!).

Since its initial description, *Steviopsis nesomii* has been collected from four additional localities (not counting the above cited type of *Estrada*), as follows: MEXICO. Nuevo León: Mpio. Aramberri, between La Escondida and Josecito, *Hinton et al.* 23947 (TEX); Cerro Viejo, *Hinton et al.* 23959, 24031 (TEX); Mpio. Zaragoza, Cerro El Viejo, *Hinton* 22447 (TEX).

In spite of King & Robinson's hunch that "The collection locality of the new species *Brickelliastrum villarrealii* may actually not be far from the Warnock locality [Maderas del Carmen, northern Coahuila]", it is clear from the above citations that the plant concerned came from the region in which it was said to have been collected.

***Steviopsis fendleri*** (A. Gray) B.L. Turner, *comb. nov.* BASIONYM: *Brickellia fendleri* A. Gray, Mem. Amer. Acad. Arts 4:62. 1849.  $\equiv$  *Eupatorium fendleri* (A. Gray) A. Gray, Proc. Amer. Acad. Arts 17:205. 1882. *Brickelliastrum fendleri* (A. Gray) R.M. King & H. Robins., *Phytologia* 24:64. 1972.

This taxon has all of the attributes of *Steviopsis* (sensu Turner 1988) except that the anther appendages are somewhat better developed than might be expected.

#### LITERATURE CITED

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